

**SPECIAL JOINT MEETING
Town Council and Board of Education
MARCH 26, 2012**

The Wethersfield Town Council held a special joint meeting with the Board of Education on Monday, March 26, 2012 at 6:00 p.m. in the Pitkin Community Center, Fireside Room – 30 Greenfield St. Wethersfield CT 06109.

Present: Councilors Drake, Hurley, Kotkin, Manousos, McAlister, Montinieri, Deputy Mayor Console, and Chairperson Hemmann. Absent: Councilor Roberts.

Board of Education: Charles Carey, Gina Deangelo, Tracey McDougall, Polly Moon, Tristan Stanziale, Elaine Steinmiller-Paradise, Martin Walsh, Vice Chairperson Janis Malec [arrived late] and Chairman Cascio.

Also present: Dr. Thomas McDowell, Interim Superintendent of Schools; Mike Emmett, Assistant Superintendent for Pupil and Instructional Services; Sally Dastoli, Director of Curriculum; Tim Howes, Director Human Resources and Financial Operation; Fred Bushey, Director, Maintenance & Operations.

Town Manager Jeff Bridges, Assistant Town Manager and Dolores Sassano, Town Clerk

Chairperson Hemmann called the meeting to order.

Chairperson Casio stated that every year they learn more of what is expected in the budget and that he appreciated the questions provided by Councilors. Dr. McDowell and staff have answered them. Mr. Casio also said he wished more Councilors attended the Board of Education Budget and Finance Committee meetings as the budget was being prepared. Mr. Cascio introduced Board of Education Budget Chairperson Gina Deangelo. Ms. Deangelo said they started preparing in 2011, late November. She stated again that it was unfortunate more Councilors did not attend Board of Education Budget and Finance Committee meetings while the Board budget was being prepared. Their questions would have been answered as they were discussed in depth. Ms. Deangelo introduced Board member Walsh who echoed their concerns. He thought it was a critical time to offer full day Kindergarten and that councilors questions were more pertinent to last year's budget than this year's. They are unanimous in their decision and committed to full day Kindergarten as the way to proceed with the Board of Education Budget for 2012-2013. It's time has arrived; this is what is needed to move forward. Wethersfield is falling behind.

Mr. Howes passed out sheets 1 [Budget Comparison FY 12 Approved, FY13 Proposed Local Funding & FY 13 Proposed Expenditures (Including Grant Revenues) and 2 [Summary of FY2013 Anticipated Grant revenue and Expenditures (This section contains regular program operating expenditures of the Wethersfield Public Schools not funded by the taxpayers fo the Town of Wethersfield, in accordance with the requirements of section 704 of the Town

Charter.)). Mr. Howes stated that this information is available in the Grants area in their Budget Book. Budget shows the grants applied and what they offset.

Councilors also received the questions they asked with the answers printed out; also DRG D Net Current Expenditures Per Pupil – Comparison.

Dr. McDowell told them to use this sheet to see how the grant monies were applied.

There were three other documents handed out and reviewed.

Sheet 3: DRG D New Current Expenditures Per Pupil – Comparison

Sheet 4: Wethersfield Public Schools, All-Day Kindergarten Support Data

Sheet 5: Wethersfield Public Schools FY2013 Budget Dossier

ADJOURNMENT

At 7:30 p.m., Deputy Mayor Console moved "**TO ADJOURN THE MEETING**" seconded by Councilor Kotkin. All Councilors present, including the Chairperson voted AYE. The motion passed 8-0-0.

Dolores G. Sassano
Town Clerk
Approved by Vote of Council
April 2, 2012